



**CHAVES COUNTY
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**

William E. Cavin, Chairman
Jeff Bilberry, Vice Chairman



Dara Dana, Member
T. Calder Ezzell Jr, Member
Richard C Taylor, Member

William B. Williams, County Manager

**ADMINISTRATIVE MEETING MINUTES
THURSDAY, AUGUST 19, 2021
#1 ST. MARY'S PLACE, ROSWELL, NM 88203**

Chairman Cavin called the meeting to order at 9:00 am. Commissioner Dana led the pledge and Commissioner Bilberry led in prayer. Those present were Commissioners Cavin, Bilberry, Ezzell, Dana, and Taylor. Also present were County Manager, Bill Williams, Public Services Director, Mac Rogers, Finance Director, Anabel Barraza, County Clerk, Cindy Fuller, Planning and Zoning Director, Louis Jaramillo, County Attorney, Stan Riggs, Detention Center Director, Daniel Ornelas, Sheriff, Mike Herrington, Road Supervisor, Joe West, County Treasurer, Charlotte Andrade, IT Director, Alfredo Garcia, media, staff, and guests.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

<p>MOTION MADE TO: APPROVE THE MINUTES FROM THE JULY 22, 2021 REGULAR MEETING AND THE AUGUST 4, 2021 SPECIAL MEETING. MOTION MADE BY: COMMISSIONER DANA SECOND MADE BY: COMMISSIONER TAYLOR IN FAVOR: COMMISSIONERS CAVIN, BILBERRY, EZZELL, DANA, AND TAYLOR OPPOSED: NONE</p>

UPDATE ON THE HEALTH FAIR

Presenter: Jennifer Smith, Chaves County Health Council Coordinator

Ms. Smith thanked the Commission for having her and thanked Bill Williams, the DWI program, the Sheriff's Office, and many other partners for helping to make the expo a success. This was the third annual expo, and they did a hybrid model with in-person booths here at the County and at the Courthouse they shared with the Farmers Market. They had 30 booth vendors and are getting in reports from anywhere from 25 to 250 people that visited individual booths. They gave away over \$1,500.00 in prizes and held a scavenger hunt. Their goal in partnering with the County was to bring the two organizations together to get more work done in our County and help us be healthier and stronger. She invited everyone to join the Health Council meetings and stated you don't have to be involved in health and wellness fields to be involved. They believe in whole health, not just physical or mental health. We want a healthy County and healthy people. It was a very big success, and they are appreciative of the County allowing the use of their facilities.

UPDATE ON THE ROSWELL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Presenter: Andrea Moore, Chairwoman

Ms. Moore stated they are going to have their first board meeting for this fiscal year next week and so far, they are off to a pretty good start. Their second issue of Roswell Now Magazine has hit doorsteps so everybody should have received one. They are taking the extra issues to hotels and other businesses. They are working on their winter issue which will feature aviation and restaurants around the County. They are working closely with RISD to disseminate information on school closures and who is on the watch list. They are working on possibly bringing back the balloon festival next year and move it from May to the Fall around September. They will be discussing holding it the week before the balloon festival in Albuquerque. They are talking to visitors and helping them build their itineraries.

Commissioner Dana asked Ms. Moore how the flow of visitors has been. Ms. Moore stated it has been steady County wide. Commissioner Dana asked if they were working with businesses to help them find workers. Ms. Moore stated they are trying to help businesses find people to work. Commissioner Dana stated they used to host a service seminar. Ms. Moore stated they would love to do that again. They have brought back the Sheriff's luncheon and things like that. They are starting slowly to not put people at risk. When they see things being successful, they will add more as to not overextend themselves. Business after hours will resume to two businesses on the first and third Thursdays in September from 5:00 to 6:30. They are booked through the end of the year. Commissioner Cavin asked about the traffic and if it's in state or out of state. Ms. Moore stated they are seeing a good mix of both but definitely a lot of traffic from Texas.

UPDATE ON THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

Presenter: Mike Espiritu, President

Mr. Espiritu stated that people are needing jobs and they will be hosting another job fair on September 14th at the Convention Center. He traveled with the City Manager across the Country and they're having the same problems everywhere. He met with all the schools and spent an evening in Hagerman talking to the Community. He went to Dexter and spoke with their Board. They had an event at the ENMU-R campus and held an Industry Day with 70-80 educators in attendance. He's encouraged by the activity that's going on. He stated it's all about workforce. The President of ASCENT was here and they are on track to break ground by the end of the year. Dirt is moving on 285 and Brasher which is now Admiral Beverage. The building is about a \$12,000,000.00 building which will take six to eight months to complete. There will be up to 75 jobs as a result of this expansion. You probably saw the great article Lisa Dunlap wrote about Great Mountain Arsenal. He went with the City Manager to Maine to tour a factory that wants to partner with us to create infrastructure at the Air Center. Their product is amazing.

Commissioner Dana stated she enjoyed the luncheon at Eastern and the information on the Aviation Program. Mr. Espiritu stated the program has increased to 20 students and they have hired two additional instructors. Commissioner Cavin stated he attended the tour at the Airport with Senator Lujan. They discussed the CTE programs which are vocational programs. Senator Lujan is 100% on board with their efforts on this. Mr. Espiritu shared the basic tenants on CTE and stated they start around the 6th grade level. They will have a spring Industry Day with students as well as the Aviation Expo on October 14th.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

AGENDA ITEM #1. AN AMENDMENT TO CHAVES COUNTY ZONING ORDINANCE NO. 7 TO BE KNOWN AS REVISION #11. AN AMENDMENT TO INCLUDE ARTICLE XXIII "CANNABIS ESTABLISHMENTS".

Presenter: Louis Jaramillo, Planning and Zoning Director

Mr. Jaramillo stated in March the State Legislature approved the Cannabis Regulation Act, known as CRA. The CRA went into effect on June 29, 2021. The CRA creates a comprehensive licensing, taxing, and enforcement regulatory structure for adult use cannabis in the State that will be administered by the Cannabis Control Division, located in the Regulation and Licensing Department. The CCD will administer the CRA and the licensing regulation of the medical cannabis program as well.

Timelines set by the CRA

- No later than September 1st, 2021, the CCD will accept and begin processing license applications for cannabis producers, cannabis producer micro businesses, and properly licensed medical cannabis producers.
- No later than January 1, 2022, the CCD will begin licensing cannabis training and education programs, issue cannabis service permits, and accept and process applications for all other license types.
- No later than April 1, 2022, retail sale of commercial cannabis will begin.

Local jurisdictions cannot:

- Prevent anyone properly licensed from transporting cannabis products on public roads
- Completely prohibit the operation of cannabis licensees
- Prohibit or limit signage identifying a business of cannabis establishment if it's attached to or located on the business premises
- Require a cannabis establishment or consumption area to be located more than 300 feet from a school or daycare center that existed when the cannabis establishment or consumption area was licensed
- Require an existing cannabis licensee to relocate to a new premise
- Prohibit an adult New Mexican from producing homegrown cannabis

Local jurisdictions may:

- Adopt reasonable time, place and manner rules that do not conflict with the CRA or the Dee Johnson Clean Indoor Act, including rules that reasonably limit the density of licenses or operating time consistent with neighborhood use
- Allow for the smoking, vaping, and ingesting of cannabis products within an indoor or outdoor cannabis consumption area on the licensed premises of a cannabis establishment
 - *limited to persons 21 years of age or older
 - *being a minimum distance of 300 feet from a school or daycare facility

Zoning Regulation NMSA 3-21-1

- For the purpose of promoting the health, safety, morals, and the general welfare of the public, the Chaves County Board of Commissioners, being the Zoning Authority, may regulate and restrict within its jurisdiction the:
 - *height
 - *percentage of a lot that may be occupied
 - *size of yards, courts, and open space
 - *density of population
 - *location and use of buildings, structures and land for trade, industry, residence or other purposes

Article 23

- Is designed to protect the general health, safety, moral, and welfare of the public by utilizing the authority granted to us in the CRA and Section 3-21-1 to 3-21-14 NMSA.
- Provides permissible times of operation for retail and consumption areas
- Provides a place (Zoning Districts) for cannabis establishments to operate within a specific distance from public areas of interest such as schools, public parks, religious institutions, community centers, day cares, adult care, medical, and governmental facilities
- Provides a manner for permitting cannabis establishments that require detailed information and performance standards from the applicant

Mr. Jaramillo read the amendment and presented the following staff corrections to Article XXIII. (corrections will be listed in quotations)

- Section 2, 6 sentences down, the word "Chaves" should be included before County.
- Nothing on page 3
- Page 4, Cannabis testing laboratory, "or facility" was added after A person.
- Nothing on page 5
- Page 6, Section 4 H – Agriculture - "Residential District" and shall be required to comply with Sections 6 and 7 of this Article". Mr. Jaramillo stated this was important to put in because cannabis producers and growers need to be at a specific distance.
- Page 6, Section 5 A, fourth sentence down, "as stated in Section 4.H, above"
- Page 7 B – The "Chaves County Board of Commissioners" ...
- Page 7, Section 6 B, second sentence should read religious "institution" not instructions
- Page 8, Section 6 F, – Cannabis establishments "may" be permitted...

Commissioner Cavin opened the public hearing for public comment.

IN FAVOR: None

OPPOSED: None

ONLINE: One in favor

Chairman Cavin closed the public hearing for public comment and took further discussion from the Commissioners. Commissioner Cavin stated there is a misconception on House Bill 2 on the distance from schools and day cares. He asked why it couldn't be 1,000 feet? Mr. Jaramillo stated this was a last-minute change to the act. The current zone is 1,000 feet and he is unsure why it's 300 feet here. He stated we hope to amend this many times over the next five years as they get it figured out. Commissioner Ezzell asked to review limitations and allowances on local jurisdictions. Commissioner Cavin asked how many other Counties in the State of NM are passing similar amendments. Mr. Jaramillo stated all 33 Counties. We are sharing this similar documentation with McKinley, Lea, and Eddy. They do not have comprehensive zoning. Only eleven Counties have comprehensive zoning. It gives us a lot more control and ability to regulate establishments. Commissioner Cavin asked if this passed in the ETZ meeting. Mr. Jaramillo stated No, it was not prepared in time for them to give a recommendation. Mr. Jaramillo pointed out and read aloud the emergency clause on the last page due to the urgency to get this passed.

Commissioner Cavin asked if the amendment was similar to the City of Roswell's since the ETZ exists within the City of Roswell and will what we pass overlap? Mr. Jaramillo stated there is an amendment to the Roswell Chaves County Extra Territorial Zoning Ordinance that will be going before them on August 31st at 5:30 pm. The Commission did recommend approval on that on Tuesday by a vote of 5-1, and the one against wasn't against inclusion of the article she was adamant against the 300 feet. Commissioner Dana stated that with the timeline they have, given House Bill 2, we are going to learn a lot. This will get something established and they can revisit this. She was in the House when the medical marijuana bill came up and they went back to the drawing board to make changes. With the urgency she thanked Mr. Jaramillo for the time and energy he has put into this. Mr. Jaramillo stated he has a board meeting tomorrow with the NM League of Zoning Officials and will encourage them to expand the 300 feet as well as expand additional uses.

Commissioner Ezzell referenced Section 4F as well as 6D and asked if a licensed establishment could have an outdoor area. Mr. Jaramillo stated from his understanding it allows them to permit either indoor or outdoor and, in this case, they are only allowing an indoor facility with proper ventilation, so it doesn't affect the surrounding neighborhood. Commissioner Ezzell asked if 6D prevented someone from smoking cannabis on their back porch? Mr. Jaramillo stated A through F are dealing with cannabis established permits and not home grown or residential use. Commissioner Ezzell asked if the act allowed up to 6 mature plants per adult. Mr. Jaramillo stated the act allows 12 plants per household, 6 mature and 6 immature. CCD is supposed to enforce this. According to the House Bill there is also a fee per plant that the homeowner will have to pay to the licensing and regulation division. Commissioner Cavin stated some of these initial issues they rushed through need to be fixed. Mr. Jaramillo stated they have not completed their regulation process.

Sheriff Herrington stated he appreciates what Mr. Jaramillo has done. 300 feet is ridiculous from a school or daycare, and it needs to be 1,000 feet. This allows drug dealers to sit on the corners of schools or other establishments and we don't want that. Mr. Jaramillo stated the law enforcement part of passing this bill has not been addressed. Sheriff Herrington stated he just got back from a Sheriff's conference and one thing that was addressed was that they don't know how long this is in your system. You can have it in your blood at a felony level but to blow you don't get any results. These are going to be very hard cases to prosecute, and it has put a lot of people at risk. Hopefully the labs will come up with a better testing process. Right now, to even get a search warrant it must be felony level DWI. It's going to be impossible to prove most of the cases. Commissioner Cavin asked the Sheriff how other States are dealing with this? Sheriff Herrington stated they are still having the same issues we are having right now. There is still no true testing to show when it was consumed. We're also seeing mental health issues are increasing as well as domestic violence, different types of crimes that are occurring, as well as our younger generation getting ahold of this. Legalizing it makes it more accessible. The State thinks they will make a lot of money on this, but they'll spend that money on mental health. The Sheriff also stated they already have beer laced with marijuana.

Commissioner Cavin stated another concern is advertising. There isn't anything they can do; they don't have the authority. Commissioner Ezzell asked if there can be an outdoor cannabis consumption area. Mr. Jaramillo stated yes, they can allow for it if they choose. It could be a stand-alone area outside. There isn't a way to contain the smell and no ventilation process, that's why they wanted to regulate it to indoor only. Commissioner Ezzell stated a business may not have an outdoor area but he's wondering about private property under 6D. He doesn't want to prohibit someone's use on private property. Stan Riggs clarified. Bill Williams reminded the Commissioners that whatever changes they have will be made by Attorney Riggs and Mr. Jaramillo if they pass this.

Commissioner Taylor stated 7A talks about the owners, maybe this should include all silent partners and be expanded. He also spoke about the interest rate. Commissioner Ezzell stated if 4D prohibits a cannabis establishment from being a home occupation why does 7B say the applicant shall specify whether the land use will include a single-family dwelling unit on the same lot or parcel? Mr. Jaramillo stated in the zoning ordinance, residential dwellings are allowed as an accessory structure to the commercial or industrial business. The Co-op residential meters are not for agricultural water as per their regulations. Mr. Jaramillo clarified that Commissioner Ezzell would like a definition for business entity. He clarified they would like a change in the interest to read, "all persons owning an interest in the cannabis establishment, including all individuals having a corporate or partnership interest". Mr. Jaramillo stated there will be a lot of amendments to this document. The City already has amendments.

MOTION MADE TO: APPROVE AMENDMENT TO THE CHAVES COUNTY NEW MEXICO ZONING ORDINANCE NO. 7 TO BE KNOWN AS REVISION NO. 11 AS CORRECTED AND AMENDED
MOTION MADE BY: COMMISSIONER EZZELL
SECOND MADE BY: COMMISSIONER DANA
IN FAVOR: COMMISSIONERS CAVIN, BILBERRY, EZZELL, DANA, AND TAYLOR
OPPOSED: NONE

AGREEMENTS AND RESOLUTIONS

AGENDA ITEM #2. RATIFICATION OF AGREEMENT A-21-041 BETWEEN CHAVES COUNTY AND THE NEW MEXICO TRANSPORTATION-TRAFFIC SAFETY DIVISION

Presenter: Elly Hollon, DWI Coordinator

Ms. Hollon stated the Chaves County LDWI Program would like the ratification approval for the FY22 agreement between Chaves County and NMDOT. The amount awarded for FY22 is \$13,955.00. This amount will partially pay for one of the DWI Court Compliance Officers. The term of this agreement will be from July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022. Staff recommends approval.

MOTION MADE TO: APPROVE RATIFICATION OF AGREEMENT A-21-041
MOTION MADE BY: COMMISSIONER DANA
SECOND MADE BY: COMMISSIONER BILBERRY
IN FAVOR: COMMISSIONERS CAVIN, BILBERRY, EZZELL, DANA, AND TAYLOR
OPPOSED: NONE

AGENDA ITEM #3. REQUESTING RATIFICATION OF APPROVAL FOR AGREEMENT A-21-044 BETWEEN CHAVES COUNTY AND NEW MEXICO AGING AND LONG-TERM SERVICES FOR APPROPRIATION A21G129 AN EMERGENCY APPROPRIATION OF FUNDING IN THE AMOUNT OF \$17,131.00 FOR THE PURPOSE AND INSTALLATION OF COMMERCIAL KITCHEN EQUIPMENT FOR THE CHAVES COUNTY JOY CENTERS.

Presenter: Georgianna Hunt, Community Development Project Specialist

MOTION MADE TO: APPROVE RATIFICATION OF AGREEMENT A-21-044
MOTION MADE BY: COMMISSIONER BILBERRY
SECOND MADE BY: COMMISSIONER TAYLOR
IN FAVOR: COMMISSIONERS CAVIN, BILBERRY, EZZELL, DANA, AND TAYLOR
OPPOSED: NONE

AGENDA ITEM #4 – RESOLUTION R-21-041 – AUTHORIZING SUSPENDING THE MINIMUM PENALTY REQUIREMENTS OF THE PROPERTY TAX CODE

Presenter: Charlotte Andrade, Treasurer

Ms. Andrade stated Resolution R-21-041 would suspend the minimum penalty requirements of the Property Tax Code. Their tax collections are over 99% and they feel it's unnecessary to add an additional minimum penalty to those taxpayers that have bills that are \$100.00 or less. They continue to do this year after year to eliminate that minimum penalty. Staff recommends approval. Commissioner Ezzell asked what is the duration of the suspension? Ms. Andrade stated this will be for the next tax year, 2021. Commissioner Dana asked if we were still running at the 99% collection rate since 2020 was such a weird year. Ms. Andrade stated yes, their ten-year collection average is 99.19%. They have \$1.2 million still outstanding which they are aggressively working to collect.

Commissioner Dana asked if the State has been doing property auctions. Ms. Andrade stated they were just advised that the next tax sale will be tentatively set for November 18th. The State is limiting the number of parcels that will be auctioned to ten. Commissioner Ezzell asked how they will determine which ten to auction. Ms. Andrade stated once they turn over their list to the State, the State comes in and works all the delinquent accounts. They will try to bring the accounts current, establish a payment agreement with the taxpayer, and those that remain unpaid to that date, the top ten, will be up for auction. There are those that understand the property tax code and know they can wait until the third year and bring their account current.

MOTION MADE TO: APPROVE RESOLUTION R-21-041
MOTION MADE BY: COMMISSIONER EZZELL
SECOND MADE BY: COMMISSIONER BILBERRY
IN FAVOR: COMMISSIONERS CAVIN, BILBERRY, EZZELL, DANA, AND TAYLOR
OPPOSED: NONE

Commissioner Cavin asked if we have put forth the property on Bland between Nancy Lopez Elementary and Xcel Energy that the City has condemned as part of the collection with the State? Ms. Andrade stated it has been listed so it's up to the State at this point to determine which accounts they are going to be collecting on. Commissioner Cavin stated it's been three years since the escrow debacle, are all the folks that got caught up in that in good shape? Ms. Andrade stated all the accounts were transitioned over to other escrow companies, it's still going through litigation, but all the accounts have been brought current.

AGENDA ITEM #5 – RESOLUTION R-21-042 – ADOPTING THE CHAVES COUNTY 2023-2027 INFRA-STRUCTURE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS PLAN (ICIP)

Presenter: Georgianna Hunt, Community Development Project Specialist

Ms. Hunt stated staff is requesting approval of R-21-042 adopting the Chaves County 2023-2027 Infra-Structure Capital Improvements Plan also known as the ICIP. Commissioner Cavin stated they still have five million dollars they are asking for that is not in the top ten for the Airport that was started a couple years ago and he's wondering if they should consider at least putting that back in the top ten so that if and when they get that project started, they will have the funds to finish. Getting the ASCENT program going pulled away three million of the five they received from the State. Commissioner Ezzell asked what he recommended moving out of the top ten? Mr. Williams stated they are encouraged to put their top five requests to the Legislature. Commissioner Cavin feels this is important, so they don't leave the City to foot the bill and asked Ms. Hunt to add it in. Commissioner Dana agreed and stated if we invest, they will come. Commissioner Taylor also agreed and stated we need new businesses to provide jobs so we can grow.

MOTION MADE TO: APPROVE RESOLUTION R-21-042 AS AMENDED
MOTION MADE BY: COMMISSIONER EZZELL
SECOND MADE BY: COMMISSIONER DANA
IN FAVOR: COMMISSIONERS CAVIN, BILBERRY, EZZELL, DANA, AND TAYLOR
OPPOSED: NONE

AGENDA ITEM #6 – RESOLUTION R-21-043 – SUPPORT OF THE PAUSE ACT OF 2021

Presenter: William B. Williams, County Manager

Mr. Williams stated this resolution acknowledges that the Chaves County Board of Commissioners supports Congresswoman Yvette Herrell’s initiative “Protecting Americans from Unnecessary Spread upon Entry” known as the PAUSE Act of 2021. Staff recommends approval. Commissioner Bilberry read the resolution out loud. Commissioner Cavin stated this is extremely important.

MOTION MADE TO: APPROVE RESOLUTION R-21-043
MOTION MADE BY: COMMISSIONER BILBERRY
SECOND MADE BY: COMMISSIONER EZZELL
IN FAVOR: COMMISSIONERS CAVIN, BILBERRY, EZZELL, DANA, AND TAYLOR
OPPOSED: NONE

AGENDA ITEM #7 – RESOLUTION R-21-044 – DELETION OF PROPERTY AND PROPOSED DISPOSITION

Presenter: Lucia Serrano, Assistant Finance Director

Ms. Serrano stated approval of this resolution will allow staff to remove the attached inventory. Exhibit “A” has the assets listed. Staff recommends approval.

MOTION MADE TO: APPROVE RESOLUTION R-21-044
MOTION MADE BY: COMMISSIONER DANA
SECOND MADE BY: COMMISSIONER EZZELL
IN FAVOR: COMMISSIONERS CAVIN, BILBERRY, EZZELL, DANA, AND TAYLOR
OPPOSED: NONE

AGENDA ITEM #8 – RESOLUTION R-21-045 – APPROVING CHANGES TO THE PERSONNEL CHARTS

Presenter: Susan Goldstrom, Human Resources Director

Ms. Goldstrom stated this resolution incorporates the personnel upgrades, modifications, additions, and revised charts approved in the final budget for fiscal year 2021-2022. The charts have been changed to reflect the budget adjustments. Staff recommends approval.

MOTION MADE TO: APPROVE RESOLUTION R-21-045
MOTION MADE BY: COMMISSIONER DANA
SECOND MADE BY: COMMISSIONER BILBERRY
IN FAVOR: COMMISSIONERS CAVIN, BILBERRY, EZZELL, DANA, AND TAYLOR
OPPOSED: NONE

OTHER BUSINESS

AGENDA ITEM #9 – APPOINTMENTS TO THE ROSWELL-CHAVES COUNTY EXTRATERRITORIAL ZONING COMMISSION FOR A ONE YEAR TERM

Presenter: Louis Jaramillo, Planning and Zoning Director

Mr. Jaramillo stated Planning and Zoning is asking the Commission to re-appoint the current representatives that are serving on the Chaves County Extraterritorial Zoning Commission for another one-year term. Staff recommends the re-appointment of Royce “Pancho” Maples, Rita Kane Doerhoefer, and Michael C Lackey each to serve a one-year term on the ETZ Commission.

MOTION MADE TO: APPROVE ROYCE “PANCHO” MAPLES, RITA KANE DOERFOEFER, AND MICHAEL C LACKEY FOR A ONE-YEAR TERM ON THE ETZ COMMISSION
MOTION MADE BY: COMMISSIONER BILBERRY
SECOND MADE BY: COMMISSIONER EZZELL
IN FAVOR: COMMISSIONERS CAVIN, BILBERRY, EZZELL, DANA, AND TAYLOR
OPPOSED: NONE

APPROVAL OF CHECKS

MOTION MADE TO: APPROVE CHECKS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$2,081,126.50
MOTION MADE BY: COMMISSIONER DANA
SECOND MADE BY: COMMISSIONER TAYLOR
IN FAVOR: COMMISSIONERS CAVIN, BILBERRY, EZZELL, DANA, AND TAYLOR
OPPOSED: NONE

APPROVAL OF REPORTS

MOTION MADE TO: APPROVE REPORTS
MOTION MADE BY: COMMISSIONER DANA
SECOND MADE BY: COMMISSIONER EZZELL
IN FAVOR: COMMISSIONERS CAVIN, BILBERRY, EZZELL, DANA, AND TAYLOR
OPPOSED: NONE

UNSCHEDULED COMMUNICATIONS LIMITED TO THREE MINUTES PER VISITOR, NOT TO EXCEED 15 MINUTES, NO FORMAL ACTION TAKEN BY THE COMMISSION

Mike Herrington, 402 S Birch, Roswell

The Sheriff introduced his new Deputy, Christopher Brosamale. The Commission welcomed him and thanked him for being here and serving.

No comments were online.

Commissioner Dana asked Cindy Fuller, Chaves County Clerk, for election information. Ms. Fuller stated the Regular Local Election will be held on November 2nd. This will include the College Board, School Boards, Soil and Water Districts, Dexter, Hagerman, and Lake Arthur Municipalities. Filing date is Tuesday, August 24th from 9:00 am to 5:00 pm.

MANAGER’S COMMUNICATION

Bill Williams, Chaves County Manager

Mr. Williams thanked Louis and his Department and Stan for reviewing everything on the Cannabis Ordinance. He thanked Diane Taylor and Jennifer Smith for their work on the Health Expo as well as the Sheriff, Main Street Roswell, and the Health Department. It was a great event. They are meeting with the Road Committee this afternoon. They’ve done many road repairs and accomplished a lot of road priorities over the last 60 days or so. The priorities change so they have to take the highest priorities and correct those first and then go back down through all the roads that need repairs and the weeds that need cut. They’ve done a really good job. The Boot Heel received an additional six inches of rain which changed the priorities again. He thanked them for their hard work. They are putting out barrels before he even contacts them and making sure the public is safe. During the meeting Commissioner Cavin handed Mr. Williams his phone and it was Senator Pirtle. He asked that the Commissioners bring themselves up to date and be current on the vaccination status and nurses being laid off and the hospitals inability to handle patients because they don’t have enough nurses. He would like for the Commission to take a stand on that.

COMMISSIONERS’ COMMUNICATIONS

Commissioner Taylor stated we are in changing times. He never thought they would be voting on issues pertaining to marijuana. He was against the Legislature passing it but at least they’ve put in regulations as best as they can with the law that was passed. He hopes we do not have a lot of cannabis outlets in the County, that’s his personal opinion. He hopes we can get our economy growing and stimulate the economy, so we never have to see a drop in population like we just saw in the last ten years. We need population growth in the County and City. This is predicated on greater economic resources and growth in the economic sector.

Commissioner Dana thanked Joe and his guys for mowing and weeding and stated she can see her intersection at Cherokee and Darby. There have been quite a few near misses as people inch out. She asked Anabel about GRT.

Anabel Barraza, Chaves County Finance Director, stated she just received their distribution this morning and it showed a 9% decrease from last year. As of July 1st, the online sales will be taxed at the local sales rate and by your shipping zip code. She spoke with Tax and Rev and asked when we would see that impact and they stated September. The August reports haven't been released.

Commissioner Dana stated it will be interesting to see what the impact is from online sales especially since everybody is hunkering down again. She thanked Louis for everything he did on the cannabis ordinance. She attended the redistricting meeting last week. It will be interesting to see what the redistricting committee comes up with. It's very important.


Commissioner Ezzell thanked everyone for all their hard work and stated Joe has been dealt quite a hand here recently. Keep up the good work. He told Louis he did a great job on the ordinance and thanked Stan for his input.


Commissioner Bilberry thanked everyone for their hard work. He doesn't envy Louis at all and thanked him for his work. He's like Commissioner Taylor and never thought they'd be in this position but we are so they'll do the best they can. He thanked Joe for all he's doing and knows they are working hard.


Commissioner Cavin introduced Glenna Reed and thanked her for stepping in. We have the greatest County in this State and we're one big family. He received an email from the City Manager, American Airlines is dealing with issues. There are going to be some issues and we need to be patient. He hopes we get back to normal. He stated the Governor has put us back in masks. He hates for it to be mandated, talk to your Doctor. Listen to the medical advice. He appreciates the Congresswoman putting together legislation. We need to slow the border down. We have five schools shut down. Take care of yourselves and families. There could be a special session to discuss rising crime in our State. Pray for this Country, Afghanistan, and Law enforcement. God bless!

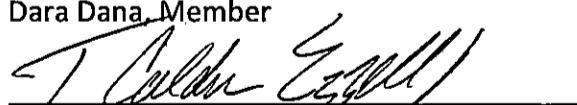
The meeting was adjourned at 11:33 am.

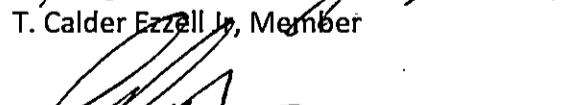
BOARD OF CHAVES COUNTY COMMISSIONERS


William E. Cavin, Chairman

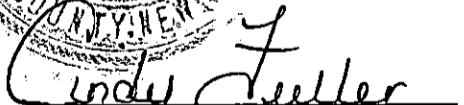

Jeff Bilberry, Vice-Chairman


Dara Dana, Member


T. Calder Ezzell Jr, Member


Richard C. Taylor, Member




Cindy Fuller, Chaves County Clerk